Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 27 with the following text:

--Successful transformation and plant regeneration have also been achieved in some monocots including maize (*Zea mays*; Gordon-Kamm et al. (1990) *Plant Cell* 2: 603; Fromm et al. (1990) *Bio/Technology* 8: 833).--

Please replace paragraph 61 with the following text:

--Total RNA was isolated from anthers at stages between −1 and +2 by TRIzol Reagent from Life Technologies (Gaithersburg, MD) following manufacturer's protocols. Total RNA samples (10 □g) were electrophoresed on a 1.2% (W/V) agarose/formaldehyde gel and transferred to a positively charged nylon membrane (Roche Molecular Biochemicals). The probe used in the hybridization was prepared by PCR corresponding to gai coding region. The blot was analyzed by the same DIG system as used in the DNA gel blot analysis.--

Please replace paragraph 63 with the following text:

--Because the TA29 promoter initiates transcription at stage −2 of tobacco anther development, total RNA was isolated from anthers between stage −1 and +2 for RNA gel-blot analysis. All five of the transgenic plants (pMON42169) showed strong expression of *gai*. The absence of a detectable band on the gel blot of the wild-type plant indicated that the *gai* message was from the expression of the *gai* transgene. A DNA gel blot analysis was also performed on some of the transgenic plants. Lines 775 and 786 had multiple copies of transgenic integration whereas lines 788 and 790 both contained a single copy of the transgene.--

Please replace paragraph 67 with the following text:

--In another experiment, F1 plants from several male sterile transgenic lines were selected based on resistance to kanamycin and grown to flowering to verify the inheritance of the male sterile phenotype. Each plant was then sprayed with a solution containing 15 mg of kinetin every other day for two weeks. The plants continued to develop male sterile flowers until 10 days after the first application of kinetin. At 10 days

post-application, the flowers that developed were male fertile. Flowers from treated plants began visibly shedding pollen whereas untreated flowers remained sterile. Under greenhouse growth conditions, the transition from stage -3 to stage 12 for a tobacco floral bud occurred in approximately 10 days. It appeared that for effective fertility restoration, kinetin needed to be applied prior to stage -2, which coincided with the onset of the TA29 promoter. Furthermore, the production of male fertile flowers persisted for 11 days post-application, indicating that continuous kinetin treatments were not necessary for restoring the fertility of these male sterile plants.--